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421-04
PATENT
450100-03175 JC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Takuji HIMENO et al.
Serial No. : 09/841,420
For : RECORDING APPARATUS AND METHOD, PLAYBACK
APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND RECORDING
MEDIUM THEREFOR
Filed : April 24, 2001
Examiner : James A. FLETCHER
Art Unit : 2615

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Gordon Kessler, Reg. No. 38,511

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Gordon Kessler
Signature

April 1, 2004

Date of Signature

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action which issued in this application on March 12,
2004, requiring an election of species among those species readable on Figures 11, 12, 13 and
14, respectively.

It is submitted that claims 1-34 are readable on the above-identified drawing figures as follows:

Species I, Fig. 11, on which Claims 1, 2, 8 and 10-12 read;

Species II, Fig. 12, on which Claims 6, 7, 9, 18, 25, 27, 30 and 31 read;

Species III, Fig. 13, on which Claims 20, 21, 26, 28, 29 and 32-34 read; and

Species IV, Fig. 14, on which Claims 3-5, 13-17, 19 and 22-24 read.

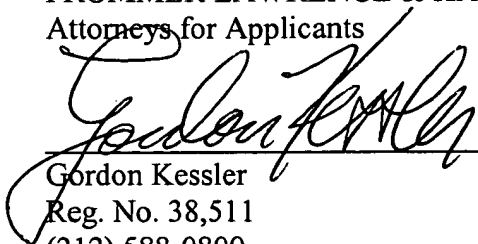
Applicants elect, **without traverse**, Species I corresponding to Figure 11, including claims 1, 2, 8 and 10-12, for further prosecution in the present application.

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications, if necessary, to proceed with the examination of the non-elected claims.

An early examination on the merits of the claims of this application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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